

## **ZERO WASTE ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

**08/08/2012**



Zero Waste Advisory Commission

Regular Meeting Minutes  
8 August, 2012

The Zero Waste Advisory Commission convened in a regular meeting on 8 August, 2012 at 301 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Council Chambers Room in Austin, Texas.

Chair Gerry Acuna called the Commission Meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Gerry Acuna, Rick Cofer, Cathy Gattuso, Faye Kazi, Jeffery Paine, Brent Perdue, and Dave Sullivan

Staff in Attendance:

Bob Gedert, Tammie Williamson, Sam Angoori, Vidal Maldonado, Ron Romero, Donald Hardee, Jessica Edwards, Jessica King, Sue Cooper, Charlotte Huskey, Gretchen Kingham, Ourana Cacho, Woody Raine, Richard Avila, Andy Dawson, Phil Tindall, Keith Bible, and Amy Slagle

### **1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

4 citizens spoke during the opportunity for citizen communication.

- a. Melanie McAfee, Owner of Barr Mansion & Artisan Ballroom, opposed the Routing Efficiencies Resolution.
- b. Daniela Ochoa-Gonzalez requested to give a 5 – 10 minute presentation about the findings and recommendations of the Composting Rebate Program at a ZWAC meeting.
- c. Andrew Dobbs, Texas Campaign for the Environment and Austin Zero Waste Alliance, opposed the Routing Efficiencies Resolution.
- d. Robin Schneider, Texas Campaign for the Environment, opposed the Routing Efficiencies Resolution and new provisions of the Single-Bag Ban Rules.

### **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes for the regular meeting of July 11, 2012 were approved on a Commissioner Brent Perdue motion; Commissioner Jeff Pain second on a 6-0-1 vote, Commissioner Faye Kazi abstained.

### **3. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **a. Discussion and Action – Universal Recycling Ordinance Phase 1 Rules**

Austin Resource Recovery Strategic Initiative Manager Jessica King provided a brief overview presentation.

2 citizens spoke about the agenda item.

- a. J.D. Porter, Austin Zero Waste Alliance, commented and offered recommendations on items 11:18, 11:57, and 11:58
- b. Robin Schneider, Texas Campaign for the Environment, commented and offered recommendations on item 11:18 and list of excluded recyclable items.

Bob Gedert commented that revisions have been made to 11:18 and 11:58 and currently trying to synchronize definitions with the Universal Recycling Ordinance Phase 2.

A vote to approve the Universal Recycling Ordinance Phase 1 Rules was passed with the option to amend in September on a Commissioner Faye Kazi motion; Commissioner Jeff Pain second on a 7-0-0 vote.

**b. Discussion and Action – Universal Ordinance Phase 2 Proposed Amendment**

Austin Resource Recovery Waste Diversion Planner Senior Woody Raine provided a brief overview presentation.

A vote to approve the Universal Recycling Ordinance Phase 2 Proposed Amendment was passed on a Commissioner Rick Cofer motion; Commissioner Cathy Gattuso second on a 7-0-0 vote.

**c. Discussion and Action – Single-Use Bag Ban Rules**

Deferred until October 2012

**d. Discussion and Action – Waste Incineration**

Bob Gedert discussed the Colorado study and how it was an academic study - not a process to be adopted by the City of Austin. No action taken at this time.

**e. Discussion and Action – Organic Energy Corporation**

Barney Gorey, VP of Public Affairs for OEC, gave a presentation about the corporation.

2 citizens spoke about the agenda item.

**a.** Robin Schneider, Texas Campaign for the Environment, opposed the OEC and dirty MRFs

**b.** J.D. Porter, Austin Zero Waste Alliance, opposed the OEC and against dirty MRFs

**c.** Andrew Dobbs, Texas Campaign for the Environment and Austin Zero Waste Alliance opposed the OEC and against dirty MRFs

**d.** Kerry Getter, CEO of Balcones Resources, opposed the OEC and against dirty MRFs

The Commission discussed the resolution and decided to postpone the vote until the October 2012 meeting when a more precise definition of “Dirty MRF” can be determined. Austin Resource Recovery staff will research and suggest a definition at the next ZWAC meeting.

**4. STAFF BRIEFINGS**

**a. Balcones Updates**

Kerry Getter, CEO of Balcones Resources, provided a status report of the Balcones facility.

**b. Director’s Report**

Director Bob Gedert presented a report on the following items: Colorado Study, Waste-to-Energy, Recycling Economic Development Liaison, National Road-E-O Participant, Council Items, Staffing, Performances Measures, and Statistical Reports.

**5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Universal Recycling Ordinance Phase 1 Rules Amendments – October

Dirty MRF Definition – October

Single-Bag Ban – October

Routing Efficiencies – October

Food Trailer Recycling – October

Composting Presentation – October

9 Zones Report – November

Construction and Demolition Update – November

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Gerry Acuna adjourned the meeting at 9:25 p.m. without objection.